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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

## INFORMATION REPORT

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[REDACTED]SUPPLEMENT TO  
REPORT NO.

1. At the request of the Yugoslav Economic Delegation in Vienna, a group of Yugoslav economists held a meeting in Klagenfurt, Austria, during the middle of March 1951. The purpose of this meeting was to consider the possibilities of extending economic aid to the Slovenes in Carinthia, Austria, by the promotion of business opportunities for them. Among those who attended the meeting were: Dr. Friedrich Zwitter of Klagenfurt, leader of the Slovene minority in Carinthia; a certain Dr. Novak, delegate of the Slovene Ministry of Export and Import to the Yugoslav Economic Delegation in Vienna; Dr. Frederic Slibar, secret (sic) director of the Yugoslav Commercial Center in Trieste; and Dr. Vojko Ferljuga, director-general of Inforit, a Yugoslav firm in Trieste.
2. Several other conferences were held in Klagenfurt and Krumpendorf during the month of April, for the purpose of discussing the same problem of economic aid to the Slovenes in Carinthia. Besides the persons already mentioned above, the following individuals attended these conferences: Janez Pretnar, director of Slovenija-Les, Ljubljana; a certain Vosnjak, chief of the Yugoslav Delegation in Krumpendorf; and a certain Fles, an official of the Ministry of Export and Import in Ljubljana.
3. The Chief topic of discussion at the aforementioned meetings concerned the proposal which had been made by the Yugoslav Government to the effect that forest trees be cut down in a 100 meter strip on the Yugoslav side of the common border between Yugoslavia and Austria. In order to create work for the Slovene sawmills in Carinthia, the logs would be sent there for processing rather than to sawmills in Yugoslavia, even though this plan presents an export problem.
4. In accordance with agreements reached at the aforementioned conferences, the lumber processed at the Slovene sawmills in Carinthia, is to be purchased by the firm of Inforit in Trieste, and payment is to be made through normal clearing channels to the credit of the Slovene National Bank in Klagenfurt. The bank is to pay the sawmills, and the profits are to be turned over to Dr. Zwitter and to Vosnjak in Klagenfurt for the economic and political advancement of Slovenes.

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25X1A

- 2 -

5. The project has involved the outlay of approximately 2,000,000 Austrian schillings, which the firm of Inforit in Trieste has loaned to the Cviter group. This money will be used by the Carinthian Union of Slovene Cooperatives in Klagenfurt to organize a "Cooperative of Small Forest Owners", which will, on its own, set up a number of Slovene sawmills. Eventually, funds will be advanced to these sawmills and to individual woodcutters from this deposit in the Slovene National Bank. In time, the bank will reimburse the firm of Inforit. Inforit funds originate with the Yugoslav Commercial Center in Trieste, which, in turn, is financed by the Yugoslav Government.

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